

Serial No. 09/753,547
Docket No. YOR920000626US1

8

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are all of the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 1-2, 4, 11-13, 20 and 23-24 have been amended to more particularly define the invention. Claim 3 has been canceled.

Entry of this Amendment is believed proper since no new issues are being presented to the Examiner which would require further consideration and/or search.

It is noted that the claim amendments are made only for more particularly pointing out the invention, and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, narrowing the claims or for any statutory requirements of patentability. Further, Applicants specifically state that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

Claims 1, 11, 23 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Domini et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,085,206) (hereinafter "Domini"). Claims 2-10 and 12-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Domini and further in view of Schabes et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,424,983) (hereinafter "Schabes").

These rejections are respectfully traversed in the following discussion.

I. THE CLAIMED INVENTION

The claimed invention of exemplary claim 1, provides a method of intelligent spellchecking that includes comparing slot-filling information of the first parse to slot-filling statistics for the original word (e.g., see Application at page 11, lines 4-9). The method of the present invention takes into consideration an entire sentence and a structure of the entire sentence to determine whether a word is misspelled or not, which allows for more accurate spellchecking (see Application at page 3, lines 13-16).

II. THE PRIOR ART REFERENCES

A. The Domini Reference

The Examiner alleges that Domini teaches the claimed invention of claims 1, 11, 23 and 24. Applicants submit, however, that there are elements of the claimed invention, which are neither taught nor suggested by Domini.

That is, Domini does not teach or suggest "*comparing slot-filling information of the*

Serial No. 09/753,547
Docket No. YOR920000626US1

9

first parse to slot-filling statistics for the original word” as recited in claim 1, and similarly recited in claims 11, 23 and 24.

The novel features of the claimed invention are not taught or suggested by Domini. Indeed, the Examiner merely alleges that Domini discloses performing a spellchecking of a word by considering an entire sentence and a structure of the entire sentence. The Examiner attempts to rely on the abstract and column 3, line 31 through column 4, line 30 of Domini to support his allegations. The Examiner, however, is clearly incorrect.

Nowhere, in these passages (nor anywhere else for that matter) does Domini teach or suggest a method of intelligent spellchecking that includes comparing slot-filling information of the first parse to slot-filling statistics for the original word. Indeed, the Examiner does not even allege that Domini teaches or suggests this feature. In fact, the Examiner concedes that Domini does not teach or suggest this feature.

Furthermore, Domini merely teaches how to integrate spellchecking and grammar into one user interface. The spellchecking and grammar checking are done in two separate steps (see Domini at column 3, lines 15-40).

Therefore, Applicants submit that there are elements of the claimed invention that are not taught or suggest by Domini. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this rejection.

B. The Schabes Reference

The Examiner alleges that Schabes would have been combined with Domini to form the claimed invention of claims 2-10 and 12-22. Applicants submit, however, that even if combined, the combination would not teach or suggest each and every element of the claimed invention.

That is, neither Domini nor Schabes, nor any combination thereof, teaches or suggests “*comparing slot-filling information of the first parse to slot-filling statistics for the original word*” as recited in claim 1, and similarly recited in claim 20.

The novel features of the claimed invention are not taught or suggested by Schabes. Indeed, the Examiner alleges that Schabes discloses comparing slot-filling information of the first parse to slot-filling statistics for the original word. The Examiner attempts to rely on column 17, line 8 through column 22, line 26 of Schabes to support his allegations. The Examiner, however, is clearly incorrect.

Serial No. 09/753,547
Docket No. YOR920000626US1

10

That is, nowhere, in this passage (nor anywhere else for that matter) does Schabes teach or suggest a method of intelligent spellchecking that includes comparing slot-filling information of the first parse to slot-filling statistics for the original word. Indeed, Schabes merely teaches a method dealing with compound words and lexical phrases (see Schabes at column 18, line 21 through column 19, line 12). Compound words are understood by those of ordinary skill in the art to mean "adjacent words". Also, lexical phrases are typically adjacent words such as "take place" (this is also evidenced by Schabes' examples at column 18, lines 25-50).

In contrast, the claimed invention uses a parse to determine the slot-filling relations, which means that the claimed invention can handle long-distance relations, and apply statistical information in these cases. For example, if a sentence recited "Which flour did you say was growing in the garden?", the claimed invention would determine that the writer actually intended to say "flower" as opposed to "flour". Here, the parse supplies a user with the long-distance information that "flour" is the subject of grow, and the statistical database of slot-filling data indicates a strong preference for "flower" being the subject of grow rather than "flour". This feature is not taught or suggested by Schabes.

Therefore, Schabes fails to make-up for the deficiencies of Domini.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that even if combined, the alleged combination would not teach or suggest each and every element of the claimed invention. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this rejection.

III. FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1-2, and 4-24, all of the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

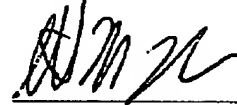
Serial No. 09/753,547
Docket No. YOR920000626US1

11

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Assignee's Deposit Account No. 50-0510.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: May 24, 2005



Scott M. Tulino, Esq.
Registration No. 48,317

Sean M. McGinn, Esq.
Registration No. 34,386


McGinn & Gibb, PLLC
Intellectual Property Law
8321 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 200
Vienna, VA 22182-3817
(703) 761-4100
Customer No. 21254

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that I am filing this paper via facsimile, to Group Art Unit 2176, at (703) 872-9306, on May 24, 2005.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: May 24, 2005



Scott M. Tulino, Esq.
Reg. No. 48,317

Sean M. McGinn, Esq.
Reg. No. 34,386